

AN ACT

relating to the powers and duties of a domestic relations office.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 203.004(a), Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 203.004. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) A domestic relations office may:

(1) collect and disburse child support payments that are ordered by a court to be paid through a domestic relations registry;

(2) maintain records of payments and disbursements made under Subdivision (1);

(3) file a suit under this title, including a suit to:

(A) establish paternity; and

(B) enforce, clarify or modify a court order for child support or for possession of and access to a child; ~~and~~

~~[(C) modify or clarify an existing child support order,]~~

(4) provide an informal forum in which alternative dispute resolution is used to resolve disputes under this code;

(5) prepare a court-ordered child custody evaluation or adoption evaluation under Chapter 107;

(6) represent a child as an amicus attorney, an attorney ad litem, or a guardian ad litem in a suit in which:

1 (A) termination of the parent-child relationship
2 is sought; or

3 (B) conservatorship of or access to a child is
4 contested;

5 (7) serve as a friend of the court;

6 (8) provide predivorce counseling ordered by a court;

7 (9) provide community supervision services under
8 Chapter 157;

9 (10) provide information to assist a party in
10 understanding, complying with, or enforcing the party's duties and
11 obligations under this code [~~Subdivision (3)~~];

12 (11) provide, directly or through a contract,
13 visitation services, including supervision of court-ordered
14 visitation, visitation exchange, or other similar services;

15 (12) issue an administrative writ of withholding under
16 Subchapter F, Chapter 158; and

17 (13) provide parenting coordinator services under
18 Chapter 153.

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

S.B. No. 567

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 567 passed the Senate on April 19, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 567 passed the House on May 4, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 1, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor